

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJ: FEB 20 NPG PERMREPS MEETING ON PHASE II PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON FOLLOW-ON USE

REF: A. USNATO 0513; B. USNATO 0390; C. USNATO 0466; D. USNATO 0483;
E. USNATO 0665; F. USNATO 0696; G. USNATO 0749

BEGIN SUMMARY: NPG PERMREPS ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET ON FEBRUARY 20
TO DISCUSS US/UK/FRG PHASE II PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FOLLOW-ON USE.
UK AND FRG PHASE II STUDY TEAM REPS AGREE TO MEET WITH US REPS
DURING FEB 18-19 TO COORDINATE AND REFINE BRIEFING FOR PERMREPS.
MISSION REQUESTS GUIDANCE PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 19 ON PROPOSED
COMMENTS FOR NPG PERMREPS FEBRUARY 20 MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. NPG PERMREPS ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET ON FEBRUARY 20 (REFS A AND B)
TO DISCUSS THE US/UK/FRG PHASE II PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FOLLOW-ON
USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS (NPG/WP(74)9). MISSION REPORTED IN REF
A ON RESULTS OF DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH UK AND FRG REPS CON-
CERNING APPROACH THAT PHASE II STUDY TEAM REPS MIGHT TAKE IN
BRIEFING PERMREPS ON THE STUDY. UK AND FRG REPS HAVE INFORMED
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US THAT LONDON AND BONN AGREE WITH THIS APPROACH. FRG IS
DRAFTING PORTION OF BRIEFING ON "ANALYTICAL
APPROACH IN THE PHASE II PRELIMINARY REPORT", AND
UK IS DRAFTING PORTION ON "CONCLUSIONS". THEY UNDERSTAND

THAT WASHINGTON IS DRAFTING INTRODUCTORY PORTION ON "BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES", AND THAT PHASE II STUDY TEAM REPS WILL MEET IN BRUSSELS ON FEB 18-19 DURING NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY MEETING (REF C) TO COORDINATE AND REFINE COMPLETE TEXT OF BRIEFING FOR PERMREPS.

2. AS INDICATED IN PARA 1(C) OF REF A, MISSION ENVISIONS THAT, AT THE FEBRUARY 20 MEETING, PERMREPS WILL DISCUSS VIEWS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS ON THE PHASE II REPORT, DRAWING ON PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED WRITTEN NATIONAL COMMENTS (REFS D,E,F,G, AND SEPTELS ON ITALY AND DENMARK), AND PROSPECTS FOR INITIATION OF PHASE III (PREPARATION OF GUIDELINES FOR FOLLOW-ON TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS). MISSION PROPOSES TO LIMIT US PERMREP REMARKS ON PHASE II REPORT ESSENTIALLY TO EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION FOR COMMENTS OF NON-STUDY TEAM ALLIES ON THE REPORT, AND OF CONFIDENCE THAT PHASE II STUDY TEAM WILL TAKE THEIR VIEWS FULLY INTO ACCOUNT IN PREPARATION OF THE FINAL REPORT, DUE BY MARCH 20. ON PROSPECTS FOR INITIATION OF PHASE III, MISSION PROPOSES TO COMMENT THAT:

A) GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FOCUS IN MORE DETAIL ON POSSIBLE INITIATION OF PHASE III DURING COURSE OF PREPARATION OF PERMREPS RECOMMENDATIONS TO NPG MINISTERS PRIOR TO THE SPRING NPG MEETING;

B) THE PHASE II STUDY EFFORT APPEARS TO PROVIDE A GOOD BASIS FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION OF INITIATION OF PHASE III;

C) ANY UNDERTAKING OF A PHASE III EFFORT TO PREPARE FOLLOW-ON USE GUIDELINES WOULD NEED TO DRAW ON NOT ONLY THE PHASE II REPORT, BUT ALSO ON OTHER RELEVANT ON-GOING WORK IN CAPITALS AND IN NATO, E.G., NPG TECHNOLOGY STUDY; STUDIES RELATING TO NUNN AMENDMENT INITIATIVES, ETC.

D) IT WOULD SEEM LIKELY THAT A PHASE III EFFORT
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COULD BE INITIATED EVEN THOUGH OTHER RELEVANT ON-GOING WORK IS NOT COMPLETED.

ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 19 ON ABOVE-PROPOSED APPROACH TO FEBRUARY 20 NPG PERMREPS MEETING.

3. MISSION CALLS TO WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION FACT THAT PROSPECTIVE PHASE III EFFORT WILL INVOLVE ALLIES IN DELIBERATIONS ON KEY AREAS OF DOCTRINE FOR TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HIGH-LEVEL US OFFICIALS HAVE STATED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS THAT PRINCIPAL SHORTCOMINGS OF ALLIANCE NUCLEAR POSTURE LIE IN AREA OF DOCTRINE. A PHASE III EFFORT WOULD

PROVIDE EXCELLENT CONTEXT IN WHICH TO BRING BASIC US POLICY
FOR EMPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO BEAR IN DEVELOPMENT OF
NATO POLICY.BRUCE

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